

THE GREEN BOOK



BY MUAMMAR AL QADHAFI

PART 1

The solution of the problem of Democracy

PART 2

The solution of the Economic Problem

PART 3

The Social Basis of the Third Universal Theory

In these three volumes the Libyan leader examines the economic, social and political problems confronting the world today, and presents a radical programme for their solution.

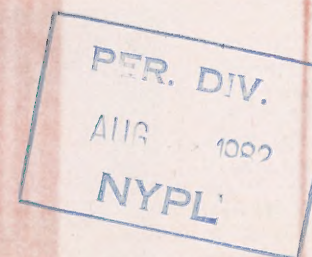
The Green Book provides a comprehensive review of the theories on which the Libyan Jamahiriya is based. The proposals put forward by Muammer al Qadhafi are not merely theories but an explanation and insight into the structure and priorities of modern Libya.

Copies of The Green Book can be obtained from The Information Department, The Libyan People's Bureau of the Socialist Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, 5 St James's Square, London SW1.

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December 1981

Price 50p



Libya in the
western media



Inside:
**The Libyan
'peacemakers'
come home
from Chad**

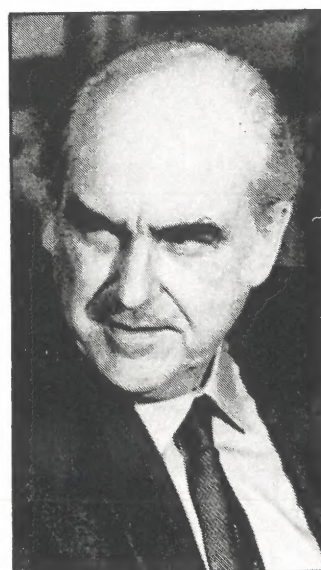
New hope in Greece

Dear Sir

The struggle against the tactics designed to further American interests in the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East is ever more necessary as the White House takes increasingly aggressive stands, and the Libyan example is refreshing in its clear sightedness. Many Greek people have strong feelings on this matter which must and will eventually be positively expressed by our leaders. Already Greece is moving in the correct direction and time will tell the true extent of the conviction of the P.A.S.O.K. Government.

Good-luck in your necessary task of English-language propaganda sympathetic to the genuine interests of the Arab and Eastern Mediterranean people.

Your faithfully,
E. Klaididis,
Athens



Papandreou: A progressive force in Greece

talists are looking for an opportunity to break this revolutionary stronghold, where it least wants to encounter opposition to its domination of the Middle-East and Arab affairs. They will use any pretext that presents itself to destabilise or overthrow the Jamahiriya.

I do not think it is fully realised by many except the more politically conscious workers in Britain, that it is only the socialist countries that prevent the capitalists from turning their full attentions upon them. If it were not for the Soviet Union too, perhaps we would be suffering under a tyranny similar to those imposed on the people of El Salvador, Chile, Namibia, Bangladesh — the list is endless.

With that in mind we should not become complacent. We should do more for the people in these oppressed lands by revolting at home. It seems to be the only thing the likes of Reagan and Thatcher take notice of.

The Jamahiriya is a shining light in North Africa of what can be achieved, and remains a ray of hope to the Arab and African peoples.

Fraternally yours,
A.D. Hutt,
Lincs.

Moral advances

Dear Sir

I regret America is not yet willing to take a sincere position towards a young nation like Libya. Among other things it is clear and evident that the US seeks to involve Libya in war — something in which the Jamahiriya has no real interest whatsoever.

In a situation like this the people of Libya cannot and have not remained silent. Instead of making unnecessary sacrifices and passive resistance they have thrown themselves into a crusade to safeguard their sovereignty and peace. But as Libya is both in the right and a strong country it is both willing and able to repulse its enemies, secure in the knowledge that its closest friends would always come to its aid in the event of any failure.

I am glad to learn that the Jamahiriya is planning a demographic policy unprecedented in modern times. By surveying and encouraging population distribution changes, it will enhance the economic strength of the country. Libya's development and growth is to be admired.

Even by Third World standards the Libyan people are not going to fall prey to anyone. Along with such other non-aligned nations as Yugoslavia, India and Cuba, Libya is as concerned with international problems as she is with domestic issues.

Nor have the Libyan people fallen behind in the advancements made in the fields of science, engineering and technology.

I am pleased to see that Libya is planning large development projects, worth billions of dinars, in the economic and social sectors.

Having transferred political power from elites to the people, the Libyans have made real advances in not only the social and economic fields, but on the moral level also.

Yours faithfully,
Selwa Eyemma,
Kampala

We must hear Libya's case

Dear Sir

The Libyan Jamahiriya is an important issue and a great deal rests on its continuation. It is only through publications like the *Jamahiriya Review* that people like myself can discover the true facts of Libya's case; the national press, as a tool of capitalism, cannot be relied upon to report anything factually, except, perhaps, what is being screened on television.

The United States version of the Gulf of Sirte incident was a nefarious fabrication from start to finish. It is therefore important to get to the real truth behind all the malicious anti-socialist propaganda and the only way to do that is to hear the Libyan side of the case.

Don't worry, the American goose is cooked! Their card is marked. They will make mistakes and all Reagan's efforts will be useless and his endeavours will go the same way as the farcical Iranian hostage rescue attempt.

I'd be furious if the Americans directly, or with the aid of surrogates, attacked the Jamahiriya. Libya is thus wise to maintain a well-trained workers' militia. Obviously the [US] capi-

Benghazi remembered

Dear Sir

I started receiving *Jamahiriya Review* before I left Libya finally for Nigeria. Whilst in Libya, I studied at Garyounis University in Benghazi and graduated in Arabic Language and Islamic Studies.

I spent eight happy years in Libya and so as not to forget the country have kept in touch by reading your magazine.

Fatih Forever,
Ibrahim Makang,
Nigeria

Who killed Sadat?

Dear Sir

I must congratulate you on your analysis of the Gulf of Sirte battle: the same penetration and exactitude as characterised 'From El Salvador to the Libyan Jamahiriya: a radical interpretation'.

As a matter of speculation, it strikes me that the Americans may have had a hand in Sadat's killing. They could safely assume that the reactionary western press would look to Libya for a plot — even if they found no evidence — and they themselves would have retrospective justification for the Nimitz violation of Sirte.

It's exceedingly difficult to obtain unbiased information on

the progress being made by the People's Revolution. I'd be very interested, for instance, to know in much more detail how the People's Congresses work and what range of concerns they deliberate upon.

Yours etc.,
John Pellowe,
Tyne and Wear

Libya's development

Dear Sir

I would like to say how pleased I am to have received the *Jamahiriya Review*. Last month I received the September issue and was deeply impressed by the economic and industrial advances being made by the Libyan people under the Five Year Plan begun this year.

The importance of such progress cannot be stressed enough. As the increasingly militant Reagan Administration in Washington and the Thatcher Government here in London decrease their international aid, so displaying their contempt for the economic plight facing the Third World, I feel the only hope for the less fortunate must lie with conscientious nations such as Libya who are capable of providing assistance untethered to the condition that beneficiaries surrender their sovereignty in return.

The economic and industrial gains in Libya augur well not only for the independence of the Jamahiriya, but also for those countries particularly in Africa where outside aggression as well as poverty threaten their independence.

My interest was aroused not only by the proposed expansion of, and improvement to the ports of Benghazi and Tripoli but also by such other civic projects as cattle farming around Sebha and cereal cultivation in the Kufra region irrigated from underground water sources, topics that would not normally spring to mind when thinking of the industrial development of an arid, oil producing nation like Libya.

Yours faithfully,
Greg Jupe,
London

Letters welcome from our readers

We are pleased to receive letters from our readers. If you would like to express your views on any subject through the columns of our magazine, please write to: The Letters Editor, *Jamahiriya Review*, 13A Hillgate Street, London W8 7SP, England. We reserve the right to shorten long letters.

jamahiriya review

Issue 19 December 1981

THE WESTERN press have once again fallen for a carefully organised US propaganda exercise. American intelligence agencies, with careful assistance from the White House, have assiduously planted the totally false notion that the Libyan Jamahiriya intends the murder of President Reagan. After the story had run in western media for a week, even the US press began to disbelieve the official US line.

Libya's leader Muammer Qadhafi set out a detailed refutation of the absurd American allegations, which we print on page 9. On page 12, Phil Kelly indicates how each new allegation against Libya serves specific policy goals of America's hardline leaders.

THE PROOF of Libya's integrity and openness in international affairs was there for the world to see when Libyan troops, newly returned from Chad, participated in a celebration in the southern Libyan town of Sebha at the end of November. The west claimed that Libya had 'invaded' Chad, but the withdrawal of Libyan troops, at the request of the Chad government and according to the agreement between Libyan and Chad — has shown that western governments and media were wrong again. A report of the celebrations is on page 10.

WHAT REALLY worries the Americans is the growing understanding and support which the ideas expressed in Muammer Qadhafi's Green Book are finding among progressive people, particularly in the Third World. On page 13, Sultan Shahin reports on the recent Green Book seminar in Caracas, Venezuela.

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America's secret government

LIBYA HAS good reason to share the sentiments expressed by Rod Stewart in his song *Maggie*: 'I know I keep you amused, but I feel I'm being used.'

For some time, Libya has been the target of an American destabilisation campaign in which allegations of political violence, backing for 'international terrorism', and involvement in assassinations, figure prominently. The original goal was the overthrow of the revolutionary authorities in Libya, and the murder of Muammer Qadhafi, and the propaganda campaign was part of the preparations for this.

It must be clear, as Muammer Qadhafi pointed out in the same interview, that the Americans could indeed overwhelm the Jamahiriya's conventional military forces with a full scale invasion. But it is equally clear that the political price which they would pay for such a move would be immense. Not only the entire Arab nation, but most Third World countries would come to Libya's aid. Such aggression would also be opposed by western companies with trading and investment interests in the Third World, interests which would certainly be harmed by American aggression against the Jamahiriya.

If a military invasion right now is difficult, the US has a fall-back position — to isolate the Jamahiriya internationally. This would have the effect of reducing Libya's support for liberation movements and for other progressive Third World countries whose very existence the US finds inconvenient. It would also be a step along the road to reducing the political price of an eventual invasion. Pressure from the administration for US companies to withdraw from the Jamahiriya is intended both to hurt the Libyan economy immediately, and to make it easier for the US to attack economic targets in future without incurring the wrath of US firms which now profit from their contracts with the Jamahiriya.

But the extent to which this can be carried through is also limited. Even if the US government managed to cut all US economic links with Libya, other western countries are unlikely to do so. So the campaign has moved back to a second fall-back position — the use of the 'threat' of Libya by sections of the Administration to achieve specific goals in foreign and domestic policies. The Reagan administration is riven by disagreements, and the hardliners, exemplified by Secretary of State General Alexander Haig, need to exaggerate every single political development unfavourable to the United States in order to convince Congress and the less hawkish elements of America's political elite that foreign policy goals are threatened by the world-wide mischief-making of the Soviet Union.

Libya has thus every right to feel itself 'being used' by the hardliners. All the allegations of Libyan involvement in the most recent 'assassination threat' against President Reagan have come from the intelligence services, who have much to gain from an extension of their powers. The day on which the 'threat' was revealed was the same day as President Reagan's announcement that the CIA would be allowed to spy on American citizens and on groups of foreigners in the US — a move clearly directed against Arab-American groups which have been the staunchest opponents of the Administration's Middle East policy.

Muammer Qadhafi has challenged President Reagan to present the 'evidence' of Libyan involvement in attempted assassinations, which he claims to possess, to a neutral tribunal for assessment. As long as the Americans refuse to do so, the clear conclusion which world public opinion must draw is that, as Muammer Qadhafi says, Reagan is a liar.

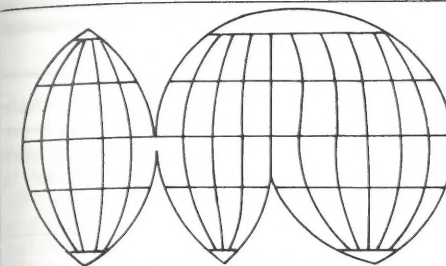
The Libyan leader's strong denial of any involvement in assassination plots against Reagan, carried by the ABC television network in the United States, has already found a faint echo in the US media. Colonel Qadhafi told Americans not to be silly; he asked why a nation of over 200 million people should fear a country of just over two million, and urged Americans to get rid of President Reagan themselves, in order to end the tremendous harm which he was doing to America's reputation.

After the broadcast, even the *Washington Post*, staunchly Zionist and anti-Libyan, began to ask questions about the credibility of the 'evidence' adduced for the presence of a Libyan 'hit team' in the US. 'The source of the information is said to be described only vaguely in the report' of the presence of the 'hit team', the paper said. It added that precisely because of the US threat to attack Libya if anything happened to President Reagan, it seemed improbable that Libya would take such a risk. The paper also thought it improbable that any single informant would have access to the sort of detailed information on all ten assassins alleged to be in the US which the CIA and the FBI claim to have. Although the report was 'being taken seriously', the paper acknowledged that it might well be 'disinformation, deliberately meant to be inflammatory for some unknown purpose'.

The purpose is much less unknown than the *Washington Post* cares to admit. The Jamahiriya's Director of Information, Khalifa Azzabi, in a statement issued in Tripoli on 7th December, again denied any Libyan involvement in the sort of activities charged by the US. He pointed out that the stories about the 'hit team' had divulged so much information about them that if they existed, it was a mystery as to why they had not been arrested. 'The answer is all too simple,' the Libyan official stressed. 'We know, the CIA knows, and President Reagan should know, such a team exists only in the fertile and corrupt minds of those engaged in propaganda work at the CIA fantasy farm.'

Dr Azzabi added that the western press and western public opinion should remember that a planned 'disinformation campaign' was being run against Libya and its leader Muammer Qadhafi, and that this was a key part of the US destabilisation campaign against Libya. He regretted that the western press had not seen fit to report the American government allegations in this more critical light.

The whole incident — which will no doubt be forgotten in a week or so — illustrates the fragile nature of the US government. The profanities and racism of the Nixon White House, the staggering from crisis to crisis, and the need to blame outsiders for each and every failure of Administration policy, have evidently been carried on into the Reagan era. It seems the US weakness for secret government and criminal excesses, typified by Watergate, is already endemic in the Reagan regime.



'Bright Star' exercises threaten Arab non-alignment

THE AMERICAN military manoeuvres in the Arab homeland, codenamed 'Bright Star', have been strongly denounced by the Libyan People's Bureau in London as a dangerous attempt to undermine the independence of countries in the region, and as an open threat against the Libyan Jamahiriya and other progressive countries in the Arab homeland.

The first contingents of American forces arrived in Egypt on 9th November as part of the Bright Star manoeuvres by the US Rapid Deployment Force. The exercises went on throughout November, and involved 4,000 US troops in Egypt and 2,000 in Sudan, as well as exercises in Oman and Somalia. One element of Bright Star was a bombing raid in Egypt's western desert, near Libya's border, by B-52 warplanes flying a non-stop round trip from the US.

At a press conference convened at the Libyan People's Bureau in London on 24th November, Mr Nagi Abu Zareiba, a member of the People's Committee responsible for the Bureau's Press Office, condemned these US military activities along the Jamahiriya's borders as the latest in a string of US actions that demonstrated Washington's contempt for the United Nations and international law, and the hypocrisy of US allegations of Libyan complicity in 'international terrorism'.

Membership of the UN, he said, entailed adherence to the principles of international law, and resort to the world body whenever countries were in dispute. Washington, however, had repeatedly ignored the obligations of UN membership, taking instead unilateral action that nullified the very *raison d'être* of the UN, Mr Abu Zareiba said.

The US had decided to label the Jamahiriya as a 'terrorist nation', said Mr Abu Zareiba, and had launched a systematic campaign to intimidate Libya and its people, in flagrant violation of international law and without recourse to UN arbitration. The



In London on 23rd November, a march of Libyan students and British people to the American Embassy protests Washington's destabilisation now being orchestrated against the Libyan Jamahiriya, and condemned the US military manoeuvres staged by the RDF in Egypt.

shooting down of Libyan jets over Libyan territorial waters in the Gulf of Sirte last August, he said, was one major example of Washington's bullying provocations. 'In effect,' said Mr Abu Zareiba, 'it took the law into its own hands, assumed the role of arbitrator and decided that the Gulf was international waters.' This, he added, was at a time when the whole question of territorial waters was still under discussion by the Law of the Sea Conference. 'Isn't this precisely terrorist conduct?' he asked.

Mr Abu Zareiba placed the Bright Star exercises firmly in the context of Washington's campaign of intimidation against Libya. The exercises were 'unprecedented in the history of the Middle East,' he said. There was 'a clear message' to the Jamahiriya in the American show of force along her eastern borders.

Libya, he continued, was not the only target of US interference. The peoples of El Salvador, Angola, Namibia and Palestine all

faced similar threats. In conclusion, he pointed to the massive peace demonstrations staged in Europe in recent weeks as 'a protest against US policy unprecedented since the end of World War II'. The protests were a major indictment of US attempts to dominate Europe, he said.

A statement issued by the London People's Bureau on 24th November detailed US attempts to undermine the Jamahiriya's security and independence, and stressed the similarity of US policies towards Europe and the Arabs. 'Our rejection of American policy in the Middle East is motivated by the same concerns and fears as those which have brought hundreds of thousands of Europeans onto the streets of European capitals to protest Washington's nuclear re-armament programme and the dangers which this poses for the future of the world,' the statement said.

It continued, 'United States

strategy in the Arab homeland and its military schemes in Europe must be seen as two aspects of a single American policy to exert its influence and control on a global scale. We join with those Europeans who demand to know by what right does the United States wage this campaign of interference and intimidation.'

Earlier, at a meeting in Adis Ababa on 16th November, representatives of the Jamahiriya, Democratic Yemen and Ethiopia agreed to protest to the UN, the OAU and the Non-aligned Movement about the Bright Star exercises. The three countries signed a defence pact on 19th August last, designed to counter the American military build-up in the Red Sea region. On 18th November the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, formed to counter the US-sponsored Camp David accords, and linking Libya, the PLO, Algeria, Syria and Democratic Yemen, met in Aden and also condemned the Bright Star manoeuvres.

Exxon unlikely to quit

A FIRM response from the Libyan Jamahiriya's Oil Secretariat, and a boost in demand for Libyan oil, have prompted the US multinational Exxon (formerly Esso) to reconsider its intention to renege on its contractual obligations and pull out of Libya. The company's declaration that it was to abandon its operations was widely seen as the result of pressure from Washington, where there have recently been calls for an economic boycott of Libya as retaliation for Tripoli's firm stance against US plans for military intervention in the Arab region.

Exxon operates in the Jamahiriya through its two subsidiaries, Esso Standard of Libya and Esso Sirte. The two firms notified the Oil Secretariat on 4th November of their intention to forfeit all their interests in Libya. In a statement issued ten days later, the Oil Secretariat said it had replied to both companies, stating that their action was a breach of Oil Law No 25/55 M, and its amendments. 'The action of the two companies is seen as a failure to carry out their legal obligations and a unilateral rescission of their contractual obligations,' declared the Oil Secretariat, adding: 'The Secretariat will reserve all its rights under the law.'

Exxon's announcement (and reports that Mobil was considering pulling out of Libya) came against the backdrop of moves in Washington to embargo US imports of Libyan oil. On 7th November the London weekly *8 Days* said, 'The State Department has been trying since early summer to get the four US oil majors in Libya — Occidental, Esso, Mobil and the consortium Oasis — to pull out. Three months ago the vice president of one told *8 Days* that he was under strong pressure from the US government to close shop. Although the US Senate on 21st October rejected proposed legislation to ban all imports of Libyan crude, it gave President Reagan 180 days to report to Congress on steps that might be taken to exert political and economic pressure on Libya.'

The Jamahiriya has firmly rejected America's pretext for the attempted oil boycott. The US claims it is directed against Libyan support for 'international terrorism'. On 12th November Libya's Foreign Information Department said the boycott was part of a plan aimed at destabilising Libya. 'We are entitled to ask: by what right does the American administration plot the destabilisation of other countries and interfere in their internal affairs?'



The American invasion: Bombs explode in the Egyptian desert near the Libyan border (top), while the US presence is also seen over the Pyramids, during Operation Bright Star which is seen in Tripoli as a prelude to a US invasion of the Jamahiriya.

a spokesman said. 'The US has the audacity to accuse Libya of interference in the affairs of other countries when at the same time American forces are present on Arab territory in Egypt and Sudan, and American backed Israeli forces remain in illegal occupation of Arab lands and this year have launched attacks on two Arab capitals, Baghdad and Beirut.'

It is widely believed in the oil industry that Exxon will not in the end carry out its threat to quit the Jamahiriya. On 5th December *8 Days* said: 'Speculation within the oil industry tends to be that Exxon will stay put. "I just have this gut feeling that they're not going to abandon everything and leave if they can get themselves even a slightly better deal," said one oil industry executive.'

This view was reinforced by a report in the *Financial Times* on 4th December that Libya was to raise its oil output to 900,000 barrels per day. For most of 1981 output had been depressed because the worldwide glut created by Saudi Arabian over-pumping of its cheaper oil — at the behest of Washington — had weakened demand for the Jamahiriya's higher priced production. This was another factor in Exxon's move; the company saw an opportunity to negotiate more advan-

tageous terms for its Libyan operations.

The majority of Libyan crude is lifted by smaller oil companies, termed 'independents', and if Exxon were to pull out, the independents would queue up to take its place. Exxon needs Libya more than the Jamahiriya needs Exxon.

Rome to have first mosque

ROME CITY Council has approved plans for the city's first mosque after eight years of delay caused by opposition from residents in the area of the building's projected site.

The decision came on 4th November, and was warmly welcomed by Rome's Muslim community. 'This is a reward for our patience after so many setbacks,' said Prince Amini, Secretary of Rome's Islamic Centre, adding: 'We think this means all the obstacles are over.'

The mosque, the first in the spiritual capital of Roman Catholicism which houses more than 500 churches, will be the centre of worship for some 50,000 Muslims. The cost of the building, to be constructed on a large plot of parkland in north Rome, has been

estimated at £12 million, which will be paid by several Arab countries. The Italian government gave its go-ahead to the scheme in 1973.

Muslim Brotherhood condemned

LIBYAN LEADER Muammer Qadhafi has strongly denounced the Muslim Brotherhood for their role in a car bombing in the Syrian capital Damascus on 29th November that killed more than 90 people and injured about 150. The Syrian government has identified the fanatical Muslim Brotherhood as being responsible for planting the bomb, but said they were acting on behalf of Israel and America.

The Muslim Brotherhood advocates the establishment of regimes in the Arab homeland that would rule according to a distorted, extreme right wing interpretation of the Quran (the Islamic Holy Book). For the past three years the Brotherhood has conducted a vicious terrorist campaign against the Syrian government. It is widely accepted that the group is financed and directed by Israel and America. Strong evidence for this came earlier this year when Sa'ad Haddad, the Zionist-backed rightist militia leader who rules an enclave in south Lebanon, openly invited members of the Brotherhood to come to his fief for military training.

Muammer Qadhafi telephoned President Assad on 30th November to express, on behalf of the Libyan people, anger at the crime and sympathy for the wounded and the bereaved. Colonel Qadhafi described the Muslim Brotherhood as 'blasphemous criminals' and said the attack confirmed their role as agents for Israel and its backers in the west.

US-France assassination plan exposed

DETAILS OF a joint US-French plot to assassinate Libyan leader Muammer Qadhafi, and to set up a puppet government to rule Libya on behalf of the west have been revealed by *Time* magazine.

According to its edition of 23rd November, a high-ranking French official brought details of the plot to Washington for approval by the Reagan administration last February, when Giscard d'Estaing was still in power. The plan was for French-trained Libyan exiles to assassinate Muammer Qadhafi, but the plans were

dropped with the victory of the socialist François Mitterand in May's Presidential election.

The magazine said the French official presented the scheme at a meeting presided over by US national security adviser Richard Allen and attended, amongst others, by Nicholas Veliotis, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, and Chester Crocker, Assistant Secretary for African Affairs.

The US was not to be directly involved in the assassination, *Time* continued, but the French official did ask the US approval and for a promise of quick diplomatic recognition of the planned puppet regime that would have replaced the Jamahiriya's revolutionary authorities. The official also sought assurances that the US would be ready to blockade Libyan harbours and airfields if the Soviet Union came to Libya's assistance. According to *Time*, the French official said planning could begin on the plot at once, but it should be carried out after the French election, if D'Estaing was successful.

The *Time* revelations follow a story in *Newsweek* magazine on 3rd August which disclosed details of a CIA plan to murder Colonel Qadhafi. 'The operation was a large scale, multiphase and costly scheme to overthrow the Libyan regime of Colonel Muammer Gaddafi,' *Newsweek* said. It continued, 'The CIA's goal, sources said, was Gaddafi's "ultimate" removal from power. To members of the House intelligence committee who reviewed the plan, the phrase seemed to imply Gaddafi's assassination.'

Newsweek added, 'The details of the plan were sketchy, but it seemed to be a classic CIA destabilisation campaign. One element was a "disinformation" programme designed to embarrass Gaddafi and his government, and isolate Libya from international opinion. Another was the creation of a "counter government".'

Arabs refuse to endorse Fahd plan

THE TWELFTH Arab summit conference convened in the Moroccan city of Fez on 25th November, and ended the same day after delegates failed to reach any agreement over Saudi Arabia's eight point plan for resolving the Palestine conflict. The plan, proposed by Saudi Prime Minister Prince Fahd, calls for recognition of the Zionist state in exchange for an Israeli withdrawal from the 1967 occupied territories and the creation



Libya shares the same concerns as European protesters: American foreign policy is a threat to both Europeans and Arabs. See item on Bright Star exercises on page 5.

of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The extent of Arab opposition to the Fahd plan was highlighted by the decisions of Muammer Qadhafi and Syrian President Assad to stay away from the summit. The Libyan Jamahiriya did, however, send its Foreign Liaison Secretary, Abdel Ati al Obeidi, to put the Libyan point of view. After the breakdown of the conference after only five hours, the Libyan envoy said, 'We consider that the plan has been completely wiped out, and hope it will not be discussed again.' He added: 'I wish that the summit had rejected this plan so that we can get rid of its implications once and for all.'

Apart from the Fahd plan's unprincipled recognition of the Zionists' aggressions against the Palestinians in 1948, it is fundamentally flawed because it depends on US pressure on Israel to evacuate the Arab lands seized in 1967. On 5th December the London weekly *8 Days* quoted Mr Obeidi as saying: 'Washington's policy in the Middle East over the past 32 years is proof of its unwillingness to give Israel anything but 100 per cent support against the Arabs. Why should Reagan be any different?'

America 'direct enemy' of Arabs

THE MILITARY agreement between Israel and the United States signed in Washington on 31st November has been strongly condemned by Arab countries. The agreement, concluded after a visit to the US by Zionist defence minister General Ariel Sharon, calls for wide-ranging military co-operation. There will be joint military exercises, the stockpiling of US weaponry in Israel, a

boost to the arms trade between the two countries, and new arrangements for military research and development. The agreement is also thought to include special arrangements for the Zionist state to receive satellite and other intelligence from the US.

Despite a statement released in Washington on 31st November stressing that the agreement was designed to meet any 'aggression' by the Soviet Union or its allies in the Arab region, and was not intended to give the Zionists any advantage over neighbouring Arab countries, the Arabs are well aware that Zionism poses a permanent threat to them all, and that this continuing US military backing puts muscle behind the threat.

The US-Israel pact is seen as an essential element in American efforts to secure bases in and around the Arab region for use by the Rapid Deployment Force. The ostensible purpose of the force is to 'protect' Arab oilfields from 'Soviet aggression'. There is no evidence of any plans by Moscow to move into the oil producing areas. It is widely recognised that the real mission of the Rapid Deployment Force is to protect US military and political interests in the Arab homeland, notably by moving to prop up western-orientated regimes endangered by internal opposition from progressive movements. 'The agreement with Israel,' said Harold Jackson in the *Guardian* on 1st December, 'will supplement those already achieved with Egypt, Somalia, Oman and Kenya, and serve to complete the encirclement of the Gulf with readily available military resources.'

The Libyan Jamahiriya and Syria have reacted sharply to the new US-Zionist accord. On 1st December Syrian Foreign Minister

Abdul Halim Khaddam told Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's special envoy to the region, that the pact made America's direct part to the conflict. Mr Khaddam added: 'The United States no longer has the right to undertake any mediation or play the role of arbitrator in the Arab-Israeli conflict because you have become a direct party to the conflict.'

These sentiments were closely echoed in a commentary by the political editor of the Jamahiriya News Agency JANA the same day. The US, he said, had become 'a direct enemy of the Arab nation'. The new military accord he continued, would merely encourage Israel to continue its occupation of Arab lands and launch further attacks against the Arabs. Israel and the US, he said, were clearly 'one and the same thing'.

Condemnation of the new military alliance between America and Israel also came in newspaper editorials in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Jordan — whose governments are generally sympathetic to the western point of view. Quoting the Jordanian daily *Ad Dustour*, Amman radio on 1st December said that the Soviet danger cited by the USA to justify the agreement was imaginary, and distracted attention from the real danger — that posed by Israel.

Act together, Qadhafi tells Non-aligned

LIBYAN REVOLUTIONARY leader Muammer Qadhafi has called for more effective co-operation between the members of the non-aligned movement, and warned that if collective action by them failed to ease US pressures on Libya, the Jama-



Photo: Newline

Libya would have no option but to seek alternative alliances. But he stressed that Libya had no intention of leaving the Non-aligned Movement.

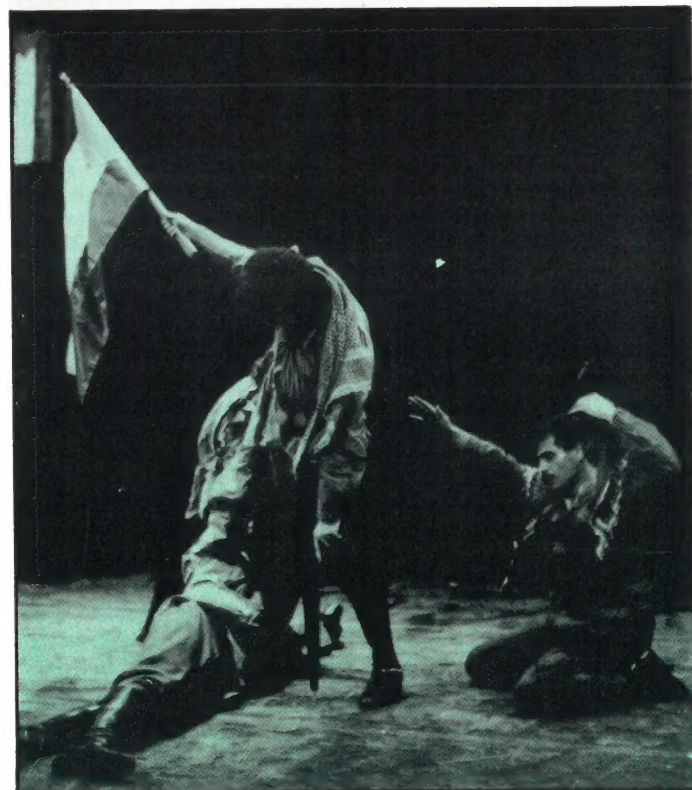
Addressing a dinner in Tripoli in honour of visiting Yugoslavian President Sergei Kraigher on 22nd November, Muammer Qadhafi declared: 'I am quite certain that if there are no substantial and useful benefits for members of the non-aligned group, especially over the dangers threatening their independence and security, then those members who realise that the group is too weak to offer its members the help they badly need will cease their active participation.'

He stressed, however, that the Libyan Jamahiriya was not contemplating leaving the group, or becoming aligned with any particular big power grouping. 'On the contrary my country is very concerned about her neutrality and that of the other members of the Non-aligned Movement, declared the Libyan leader.

Qadhafi was strongly critical of what he termed 'the attitude of indifference' of the non-aligned countries towards issues that they felt were critical. Amongst these, he cited the Palestine question, Zionist aggression against Lebanon and Iraq, the invasion of Angola, the establishment of US military bases in Egypt, Sudan, Somalia and Oman, and the threats to the integrity of Nicaragua, Cuba, the Seychelles and the Libyan Jamahiriya.

'My country declares that it refuses to live forever under Washington's arrogant threats of military action and economic blockade,' he said.

Muammer Qadhafi urged the



UN Palestine Day: (Top) Broad support for the Palestinian struggle at a rally in London (left to right) Gerry Pocock speaks on behalf of the Communist Party, Ernie Ross MP (Labour), PLO Representative Nabil Ramlawi, Gilberto Rizzo of the UN, Student leader Alan Watson and Tony Marlow MP (Conservative). (Below) A dance troupe pays tribute to the Palestinian armed struggle.

formation of a collective defence and security system to enable the movement's members to safeguard their independence and neutrality.

The Libyan leader stressed that the Jamahiriya 'still counts on the non-aligned movement to stand at its side to remove the US threats'.

UN Palestine Day observed

IN A letter to UN Secretary-General Dr Kurt Waldheim, the Libyan Jamahiriya has reaffirmed its strong commitment to the Palestinian people and their

struggle, and harshly condemned Israel's aggressions in the Arab homeland. The letter, from Mr Abdel Ati al Obeidi, Libya's Foreign Liaison Secretary, was sent to mark UN International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people, which fell on 29th November.

Mr Obeidi denounced the 'terrorist tactics' used by Israel in the 1967 occupied territories, which include 'the blowing up of homes, the expulsion of citizens from their country, total disregard for the national rights of the Palestinian people, the sequestration of land, the construction of Zionist settlements and the eradication of the Arab and Islamic character of occupied Palestine'.

He continued: 'Zionist aggression has also gone so far as to pose a threat to Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity, effectively destroying the country.'

Israel, said Mr Obeidi, was actively working to foment civil war and sectarian strife in Lebanon, and to hamper the Lebanese Government's efforts to assert its authority. Its aggression in the Arab region, he added, were made possible only by the support it received from the US and NATO countries. These countries, he went on, bore a heavy responsibility for the Zionists' flouting of UN resolutions on Palestine.

The letter strongly reaffirmed Libya's support for the struggle of the Palestinian people to 'liberate their lands, exercise self-determination and build their independent state in Palestine'.

LIBYAN LEADER Muammer Qadhafi has rejected out of hand allegations by the United States that the Jamahiriya had sent 'hit teams' to assassinate President Reagan, and expressed Libya's willingness to co-operate in an investigation into the allegations, that would prove them to be false.

Interviewed by the US television channel, ABC, on 6th December, he said: 'We reject the US allegations and challenge the Reagan administration to produce a shred of evidence to support its fabrications.'

'We reject assassination and do not accept that anyone should be assassinated, for this is contrary to our character, conduct and customs. However, this is characteristic of the US which has made several attempts to get rid of Muammer Qadhafi. This was in fact a contentious issue among the CIA, congress, the administration and President Reagan which has become well-known to the whole world.'

Qadhafi said that he did not derive pleasure from anyone's assassination, but was nevertheless gratified when a person who had been following dangerous policies died. 'I was not against Sadat because he was Anwar Sadat, and I do not oppose Reagan as Reagan. I am opposed to their policies. Sadat was a man of war. Having stopped the war on his eastern front, he started another on his western front. His death has given the region a respite; many things were removed with his burial,' said Muammer Qadhafi.

'As to Reagan, he is a man of war who is pushing the world towards a great catastrophe. His administration is the worst we have yet witnessed in America,' Qadhafi said.

In answer to a question on the motives behind the United States' allegations against the Jamahiriya, Qadhafi declared, 'The United States wants us to become slaves. We do not want to become America's vassals and it is because of this that we are classified as an enemy.'

Qadhafi said Zionist propaganda, Sudan's President Numeiri and Libyans who had dodged military service were behind this 'false information upon which the US administration has based its false accusations against us.'

He ridiculed President Reagan's belief in these allegations, saying: 'Reagan believes in these allegations because he is both silly and ignorant. Numeiri supplied him with this information. Numeiri is attempting to escape from his people, and is seeking Reagan's protection. The Libyan students who have dodged military service also find it in their interest to propagate such lies and misleading information.'

'The actions of these hirelings are designed to mar relations between Libya and America. If relations between Libya and America were satisfactory, they would not have been offered the appropriate cliche for their actions,' the Libyan leader added.

'We are ready to investigate this infor-



Reagan challenged for evidence of Libyan 'hit teams'

But senators on the Senate Intelligence Committee who were briefed in secret by a White House official were said to be disappointed that information on the plot is inconclusive.

Boycott

Senator Patrick Leahy said after the briefing: 'There is no hard evidence at all.'

On 9th December the London New Standard reports no evidence exists.

mation and uncover the liars. Reagan is the liar and the US is daily exercising military, psychological and economic pressure against us. This, we believe, is a terrorist policy and we are prepared to confront it along with other people's suffering from American terror, whether in the Arab world or elsewhere,' said Muammer Qadhafi.

He challenged the American administration to carry out an investigation into the reports of Libyan 'hit teams' 'so that the Libyan people and the American Congress and people will know who the liar is, Reagan or Libya.'

Commenting on the decision by the US company Exxon to end its operations in Libya, Qadhafi said the decision was taken under pressure from the Reagan administration, adding: 'Such a position shows that the Reagan administration is pursuing a policy contrary to the interests of the US companies and people, for Exxon has reaped benefits from its work in Libya. Libya has done the same.'

'However, Reagan has swept away the operations of this company and hopes to

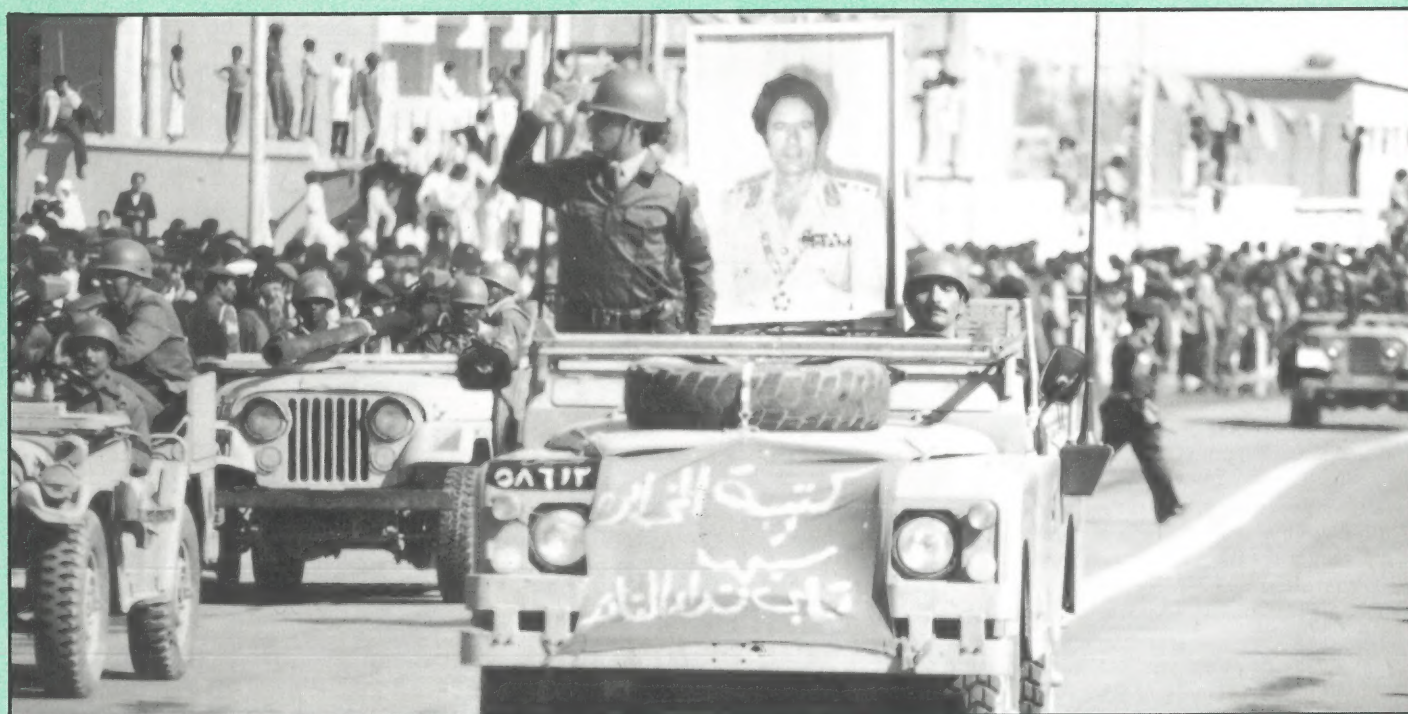
end those of the other US companies, thereby destroying the interests of the Americans themselves. The Americans and the US Congress should realise the dangers of such a mistaken policy, a policy which tries to do them a disservice in Libya. Reagan is certainly attempting to force US companies working in Libya to leave the country.'

Asked if the Jamahiriya wished to establish normal relations with the US, the Libyan leader said, 'We still wish to establish good relations with the US, as with any other country in the world. But it is the US that refuses to establish relations with us. The Jamahiriya is prepared to hold a dialogue with America at any level.'

Asked about the possibility of improving Libyan-American relations, Qadhafi replied: 'It is not possible to change all this until the American people decide to dispose of Reagan and his incompetent administration.'

President Reagan was not worthy to lead America as a superpower, because he was silly and acted like a child, the Libyan leader declared, stressing that when he spoke of Reagan's removal, he meant the defeat of his administration at the next US presidential election — not his assassination.

Colonel Qadhafi concluded the ABC interview by repeating his call for investigation into the allegations spread by the Reagan administration. He again emphasised the Jamahiriya's willingness to co-operate fully in any attempt to nail the fabrications, and so put an end to this particular line of propaganda aimed at the Libyan people.



Home from Chad: Libyan troops parade in Sebha on returning from their peacemaking mission.

Libya welcomes home its Chad 'peacemakers'

REPRESENTATIVE UNITS of the Libyan armed forces who fought in Chad on behalf of the government of President Goukouni Oueddei marched past Libyan Leader Muammar Qadhafi at a ceremony in Sebha on 28th November 1981. Also present on the reviewing stand was PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and Polisario leader Mohammed Abdelaziz, and the Chief of Staff of the Libyan Armed Forces Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir.

The Libyan leader told the assembled troops that as America insisted on its right to have a Rapid Deployment Force which 'had the right to intervene anywhere in the world to protect US interests', then there could be no objection from world opinion if Libya seized on the US precedent to establish its own Rapid Deployment Force, but one which would fight for freedom rather than against it. 'The forces which returned will remain a mobilised division and order will be issued for its formation as a Rapid Deployment Force in opposition to the Americans,' he said.

The units taking part in the parade included infantry detachments, commandos, frogmen as well as armoured cars and jeeps, armoured personnel carriers, rocket launchers and tanks, along with medical and other service detachments. Overhead flew training aircraft, Hercules transport aircraft, helicopters, and jet fighters and bombers as the troops assembled on Sebha's main square.

Colonel Qadhafi said that the Chad mission had been the outcome of the Chad people's long fight against colonialism.

AT A ceremony in the southern Libyan city of Sebha at the end of November, the Libyan Jamahiriya honoured the memory of Libyan troops who fell during the peace-keeping mission in Chad, and saluted the service to Chad and to African unity rendered by officers and men of the Libyan armed forces. Phil Kelly was at the ceremony and reports.

The struggle had been led by the Chad National Liberation Front, Frolinat, which had fought against the French, and against the 'fascist rule installed by France after its departure' including Tombalbaye and Malloum. During this period, he said, there had been a campaign of extermination directed particularly against the ethnic Arabs of Chad, and against all the country's Muslim people.

Frolinat had secured victory, with indirect help from Libya. Goukouni Oueddei had been installed as head of a transitional government by international agreement, with Libya's endorsement. But after this, civil war broke out in Chad, a war which had cost at least 5,000 Chadian lives, and whose conflicts threatened to spill over and engulf all of Chad's neighbours — Nigeria, Niger, Cameroun, the Central

African Republic and Sudan, as well as the Libyan Jamahiriya, the Libyan leader declared.

Qadhafi disclosed, 'Goukouni Oueddei came to us and asked us for direct intervention.'

The Libyan leader had been told 'You alone in this region have the power to end this fierce war in Chad.'

'At the time we had no wish whatsoever to enter Chad,' Qadhafi continued. Libya had insisted that its forces would only enter Chad legally, if authorised to do so by treaty. Such a mutual defence treaty was signed.

'Swift Lightning'

Under the terms of the treaty, an armoured unit was carried over 4,000 kilometres across Libya and Chad, to the heart of Africa, in an operation dubbed 'Swift Lightning', the Libyan leader revealed. 'This armoured division fought in widely varying terrain; some similar to Libyan conditions, some totally different. All units — commandos, tank and rocket launcher crews — fought under strange conditions, but adapted their training to suit the circumstances,' he said.

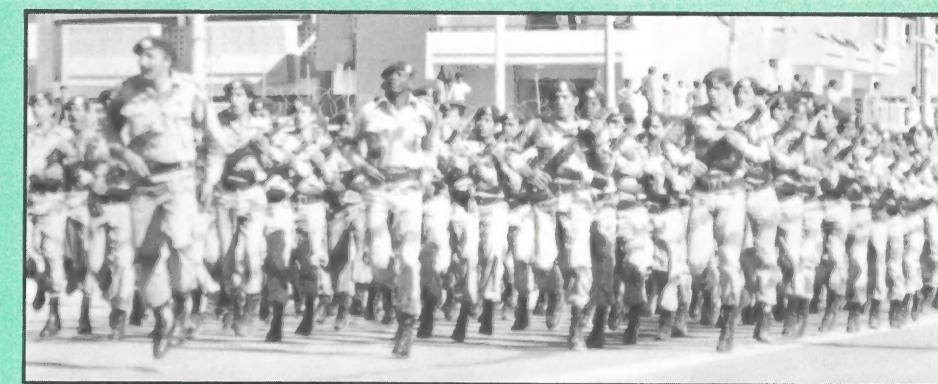
The officers and men of the armed forces had been tested in real battle, Muammar Qadhafi said, and they had shown their training in Libyan military colleges was excellent. After the Libyan division had entered Chad from the north, it rapidly penetrated to all parts of the country. Disclosing details of the management of the peacekeeping operation, he added: 'The staff officers commanding these fronts implementing the orders of the main operations room in Tripoli were able to make changes in the plans and refer back to Tripoli for them to be adopted and immediately carried out. Major Abdel Salem Jalloud, in the Tripoli operations room was in direct contact with the commanders on the battlefield.'

All the types of weapons available to the Libyan Armed Forces were used in Chad, the Libyan leader revealed. Tupolev strategic bombers carried out both attack and reconnaissance missions. Mirage and MiG-23 fighters also flew attack missions, the latter from bases inside Chad. Propeller aircraft — a formation of eight of which took part in the flypast — were used on 1,500 missions against the Habre rebels, and against their bases inside Sudan. They were easy to maintain, required no fixed bases, and could operate from almost anywhere, Qadhafi explained. Helicopter gunships were also used against the rebels, he said.

Libyan forces had suffered 300 killed and 700 wounded, Colonel Qadhafi said. This was only two per cent of the total of Libyan troops which took part in the Chad operation. More than 40,000 tonnes of troops and equipment were flown to Chad in a very short time; the Libyan Armed Forces had sent a division to fight in the heart of Africa, and it had returned within ten days of the order to withdraw being given.

Accusations that the Soviet Union had helped in the Chad operation, or that Soviet advisors had participated in the operation or the withdrawal, were 'tendentious, false and stupid,' declared Colonel Qadhafi. The Soviet Union had sold Libya arms and equipment, and trained some of its officers, said the Libyan leader.

'As for the operation in Chad, neither the Soviet Union nor anyone else had anything to do with it,' the Libyan leader declared. 'This action was carried out by the Libyan people of their own free will, and they can take the consequences.'



A force for peace in Africa: Libyan troops back from Chad.

At this point, and several times during his speech, he was interrupted by the cheers of the assembled troops, who shouted, with other slogans, 'We liberated Ndjamena and Palestine is next.'

Welcome

The Libyan action in Chad, Muammar Qadhafi pointed out could not have been brought about without the overwhelming support of the Chadian people, and Libyan soldiers had been joyously welcomed wherever they had gone in Chad. 'Libyan forces fought on the side of the people of Chad and for the sake of the freedom of the Chad people,' he averred.

The Libyan operation had been successful, Colonel Qadhafi said, because it had forced the Sudanese regime of Jaafar Numeiri to recognise the legitimate government of Chad under Goukouni Oueddei. In the final two months of the campaign, Sudanese forces had prepared for an offensive across the border into Chad. After occupying four cities, they and the Habre rebels were driven back by

Chad government troops and Libyan forces at a cost of 600 Sudanese and rebel lives. Only after this defeat, did Numeiri recognise the government of Chad.

The Libyan leader concluded by indicating the urgent need for Libya to build its defence forces at a time when the US, as shown by the exercise Bright Star 81, was actually invading Arab lands. Should the United States intervene in the Gulf, Libya's mobile forces were ready to fly there to defend the Arab people against the Americans, he declared.

At the conclusion of his speech, Colonel Qadhafi, still accompanied by the Palestinian and Saharan leaders, and by Brigadier Jabir, presented over fifty campaign medals and certificates to officers, NCOs and soldiers who had served in Chad.

The formal ceremonies over, Colonel Qadhafi mounted an open Land Rover and drove through the assembled troops, who broke ranks and surrounded the vehicle, cheering, saluting and trying to shake their leader's hand.

Habre and Sudan pose threat

AS THE Libyan peacekeeping force withdrew from Chad, the country appeared to be on the brink of lapsing into the chaos from which the Libyan forces rescued it twelve months previously. In the east of the country, along the Sudanese border, rebels loyal to former Defence Minister Hissane Habre took over control of the towns of Iriba, Gueneda and Adne as soon as Libyan troops pulled away from that area at the beginning of their withdrawal. Later, they occupied Abeche.

The first troops of the OAU peacekeeping force did not arrive from Zaïre until ten days after the Libyan withdrawal began. There were only 700 of them. While Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi revealed that a total of 15,000 Libyan troops had served in Chad, it is not known how many were there when the withdrawal was ordered; but it is thought that some thousands of Libyan troops were still required to ensure the continuing authority of the Oueddei government. The Nigerian Chief of Staff arrived at the same time. But the

International Herald Tribune reported on 18th November that 'Paris and Washington are unwilling to shoulder the burden of paying the entire bill for the OAU force. As a result, the six African countries that have promised to contribute troops have been unable to agree on how to finance it.'

There were conflicting statements about the OAU force from the Habre camp. One advisor said that the OAU force was 'unacceptable', implying that Habre's rebels would fight the force if it tried to uphold government authority in the Habre-occupied towns. But the London Economist said on 20th November that it was thought that Habre might order his men simply to wait until after the OAU force left again before re-asserting his domination over some areas of Chad.

There are also international implications which might prove grave for the Jamahiriya. After the Libyan withdrawal was complete, Sudanese ruler Jaafar Numeiri, whose regime has been largely responsible for arming and

sheltering the Habre rebels, paid an official visit to the United States. He conferred with President Reagan and other US officials over the future of Sudan — which is receiving massive military aid from the US — and of the Chad rebels it backs. Numeiri admitted that he had asked the rebels to cease fighting 'for two, three or four months,' the International Herald Tribune said on 21st November, but claimed that he had been rebuffed by Habre.

Perhaps the most alarming development was the announcement at the beginning of December that Zaïre, whose troops are now on Libya's southern borders, had resumed diplomatic relations with the Zionist state of Israel in occupied Palestine. The reference earlier this year by Muammar Qadhafi to Chad as 'Libya's vital breathing space' was never more apposite. In withdrawing from Chad, Libya has fulfilled its commitments under international law, and has lifted a burden from the shoulders of its citizens. But the danger is far from over.

OVER RECENT weeks, orchestrated press 'leaks' about Libya have served to help the hardliners in the Reagan administration in their quest for three specific goals.

1. The French Connection

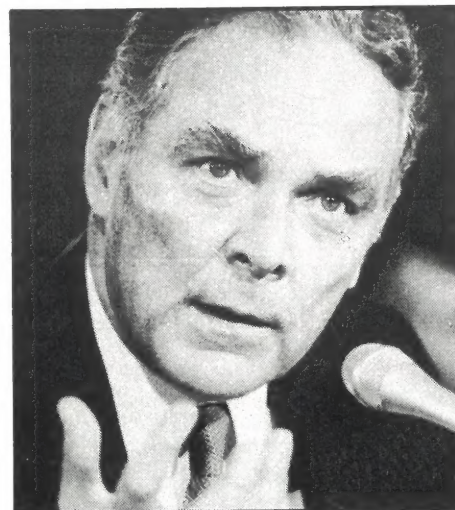
On 28th October, shortly before Chad President Goukouni Oueddi asked Libyan troops to withdraw from Chad, reports appeared in French newspapers that Libyan forces in Chad had staged a coup against the Oueddei government, and that tanks and Libyan troops were pouring into the capital, Njamena. At the same time, there was an attempt to convince the revolutionary authorities in Libya that France was despatching troops to Chad. Both rumours were untrue. When the dust had settled, *The Guardian* reported from Paris on 19th November that French President François Mitterand believed 'that the intention was to exploit the tense situation in the area and to provide a pretext for a war against Libya that Egypt and Sudan would have joined.' Those responsible for spreading the rumours were agents of the French overseas intelligence service, SDECE. *The Guardian* said: 'It is believed that the agents supported both the military policies of President Giscard, and the confrontation tactics with Libya favoured by the United States.'

Their motives were two-fold; they sought to discredit the moderate government of François Mitterand by embroiling it in a war in Africa, so tarnishing its image in that continent and through the Third World; and they sought to provide the pretext for a military intervention against Libya which would have provided cover for the execution of standing American plans for the overthrow of the revolutionary authorities and the assassination of Muammer Qadhafi.

Former CIA officer Philip Agee has confirmed that the US Central Intelligence Agency actively recruits agents within other countries' intelligence services, even when the countries, like France, are on friendly terms with the USA. President Mitterand now seems well aware that some French intelligence officers owe their principal allegiance to Washington rather than Paris. 'Some of France's leading secret agents in Africa are to be sacked' as a result of this affair. *The Guardian* said. 'The new chiefs of SDECE appointed by the Socialist Government . . . have reported that they suspect much of the division of that service responsible for reporting from Africa,' it concluded.

2. The Italian Job

On 25th October, *The New York Times* claimed on its front page that Maxwell Rabb, America's Ambassador in Rome, had been flown home from Italy without even being given time to collect a change of clothing, because of an alleged Libyan plot to kill him. In fact, he had been recalled because the Reagan administration wanted to use Rabb, an American of Jewish background, to defuse Zionist



Haig: A threat to world peace

All the President's men

LIBYA HAS become familiar with American allegations that it condones or supports 'terrorism'. The continuing claims are never substantiated. They are intended as part of a campaign of psychological warfare to discredit the Jamahiriya, but each specific allegation in recent weeks has also been linked to a specific policy goal of the Reagan administration. Phil Kelly explains.

opposition to the sale of AWACS early warning aircraft and other military supplies to Saudi Arabia. Rabb had been in the United States for at least a week before the story appeared.

The London *Financial Times* reported on the following day that the US Embassy in Rome had denied that there was any threat to Ambassador Rabb's life. It seems quite plausible that the Administration, which had been exerting itself greatly to secure the AWACS sale, thought that the story of a 'Libyan threat' to a Jewish ambassador would convince pro-Israel Senators that they should endorse the Administration's backing for right-wing Arab states.

The *New York Times* story appeared three days before the Senate voted on AWACS; Ambassador Rabb returned to Rome two days after the vote. The Italian Foreign Ministry said in a statement that Ambassador Rabb's return had 'put an end to the theories which are devoid of any foundation.'

3. The Day of the Jackal

On 9th November, *Newsweek* — the US weekly which predicted that the US would try to provoke trouble with Libya only hours before the Gulf of Sirte incident in August — claimed that 'US intelligence believes that Libyan strongman Muammer Qadhafi is planning terrorist attacks on four American embassies in western Europe . . . London, Paris, Vienna and Rome.' On 12th November, a man fired six shots at the acting US Ambassador in Paris, Christian Chapman. All the shots missed. Mr Chapman said the man was 'of Middle Eastern appearance'. In Washington, General Haig said that he had 'repeated reports that Colonel Qadhafi has been funding . . . groups to conduct activities against the lives and well-being of American diplomats.'

The Haig allegations were immediately denied by the Secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Paris, Said Hafiana, and no action has been taken against the Bureau by the French authorities.

On 4th December, *The New York Times* claimed that a 'Libyan hit team of five men' had entered the United States with orders to kill President Reagan, or if that failed, senior officials or members of his family. The only source which the newspaper could quote was 'senior law enforcement officials' — the FBI. The story was given more publicity when, the following day, Reagan himself said that he was 'taking the threat' seriously. Allegations of Libyan bids to kill the President are fairly common occurrences in the US media — the last one was on 11th October, when NBC television claimed that the FBI was investigating the possibility that the hit team was composed of former US Green Beret soldiers.

October's hit team rapidly disappeared from America's screens and front pages. December's lasted rather longer, and even became two five-man teams, including an East German. The greater stamina of the December 'hit team' was due to the escalation of publicly-oriented security measures for the President. Most security services feel that discreet protection is the most efficient.

The armed guards on rooftops, decoy motorcades and the public announcement that telephones were being tapped was the opposite of good security — but calculated to secure publicity.

President Reagan was given six months by the Senate on October 21st to come up with a programme of economic and political sanctions against Libya. The Senate rejected the imposition of immediate sanctions — foremost of which would be a ban on oil imports — because European countries would not co-operate at present.

On 8th December, Mr Haig flew to Brussels for the NATO ministerial meeting at which he hoped to convince the European members of NATO to join with the United States in taking political and economic sanctions against Libya. The 'hit-team scare' will no doubt assist him in his efforts.



Muammer Qadhafi: Libya's revolutionary leader proclaims an alternative to capitalism and communism

Muammer Qadhafi sets example for Latin America

774 DELEGATES from fifty-four countries attended the 'Third International Colloquium on the Green Book' held in Caracas between 12th and 15th November 1981. Delegates were agreed that the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya has emerged as the centre of anti-imperialist struggles the world over, a beacon of light for all those who are dissatisfied with both capitalism and communism, but are still groping in the dark. The anti-imperialist character of the colloquium was underlined by the unanimity displayed by intellectuals from all corners of the globe, representing various schools of thought, in their total rejection and denunciation of imperialism and zionism, coupled with wholehearted support for all liberation movements in the world, in particular the Palestinian struggle for a homeland, the El Salvador resistance movement, the black American struggle and the Nicaraguan revolution. The Director of the Institute for Research on the *Green Book*, Ahmed Shahati, received a standing ovation when he proposed the resolution supporting liberation movements all over the world.

Delegates were disappointed that Muammer Qadhafi was not able to be present himself — as he was at the first colloquium on the *Green Book* in Benghazi in 1979 — or to address the meeting by satellite communications link, as he did in 1980, when the second colloquium was held in Madrid. The government of Venezuela did not even respond to a telegram sent by the delegates to the President requesting permission for the satellite communication which would have made it possible for the gathering to listen

MUAMMER QADHAFI'S *Green Book* has captured the imagination of people throughout the world who are fighting oppressive regimes. Sultan Shahin reports from Caracas on a recent congress on the *Green Book* held in the Venezuelan capital, and attended by leading progressive figures from all over Latin America.

to Colonel Qadhafi and even discuss with him anything they wanted to, as they had done in Madrid and Benghazi. One could feel the disappointment of delegates all through the Seminar.

But in another respect this colloquium was inspiring. Proponents of religion, which has been generally considered a conservative force, appeared to derive inspiration from the *Green Book*. It was comic yet inspiring to hear a Catholic priest from Malta and Islamic scholars from Sudan, Venezuela and other countries, quoting chapter and verse from the Bible and the Quran to prove the progressive character of religion. The *Green Book* had changed the trend of their fundamentally religious thinking. An Indian delegate, Prof Z M Quraishi of Delhi University, referred to the Islamic roots of the Third International Theory. In his view, Muammer Qadhafi's theory of freedom, for instance, was a restatement of the Islamic concept of freedom.

In essence, the colloquium provided a platform for freedom fighters from all over the world, especially South and Central America and Palestine, to explain their case against imperialist and zionist activities in different parts of the world. It is highly significant that these progressive forces draw inspiration from Qadhafi's Third International Theory as enunciated in the *Green Book*, which rejects both capitalism and communism as solutions for the political, economic and social problems facing mankind.

Appreciation

Interviews with revolutionary leaders from various Latin American countries and with black American activists established the depth of appreciation these crusaders have for the Third International Theory.

A Chilean politician now living in exile in Venezuela, Prof Luis Vitale, for instance, told me that it would be quite possible to establish a Jamahiriya in Chile after the present dictatorship is overthrown. Dr Vitale is the author of 30 books and has written on Chilean history from a Marxist viewpoint. A follower of the 83-year old Chilean freedom fighter Clotario Blest, Dr Vitale was held in a concentration camp in Chile during 1973-75. Two years in a terrifying prison has not, however, cooled his revolutionary ardour. He is still active in the resistance movement in Chile. Now teaching economics and sociology in the Central University of Venezuela, he has written a book entitled *The Jewish Question, Zionism and the Arab World*. He believes that the establishment of a Jamahiriya is the only solution for the people regardless of country.

A young Venezuelan revolutionary, Antonio Ramirez was more pragmatic. He believes that the establishment of a

►Jamahiriya as propounded in the *Green Book* and as practised in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is the ultimate solution. But he feels the need for a political organisation to overthrow the present system in Venezuela. Originally a Marxist, Mr Ramirez does not like the bureaucracy that has developed in the socialist states. Nor does he like party institutions which, he feels, create a political elite and lead to corruption. He and his comrades are working among the poor people, particularly the slum-dwellers, the unemployed and the low-paid workers. His attempt is to establish popular committees and congresses among the poorest of the poor on the lines of the committees and congresses formed in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

Peruvian journalist, Maria Martinez, a member of the resistance movement in her country, has studied the Third International Theory very closely. Basically a Marxist, she supports the Al-Fateh Revolution in the Jamahiriya wholeheartedly. She thinks that the *Green Book* deserves serious consideration not only because it comes from a great revolutionary leader but because it incorporates the experience of a people who already exercise authority and power. As all authority, arms and wealth have been handed over to the people themselves in Libya, their experience, on which the *Green Book* is based, must be thoroughly considered and taken note of, she said.

Painting a gloomy picture of Peru, Maria pointed out that over 50 per cent of the Peruvians are unemployed and 10 per cent of the children die before the age of three months owing to very poor health care and malnutrition. Trade union and left-wing leaders are always under attack. During the recent state employees' strike, 500 workers were arrested on the first day.



El Salvadorian guerrillas show the determination of their people to challenge the American backed regime which last year oversaw the murder of more than 12,000 civilians.

Strikes

Frequent strikes are a feature of Venezuelan life too. In fact the colloquium on the *Green Book* itself suffered somewhat because of a strike of teachers and employees of the Central University which sponsored the seminar. Over 25,000 metro workers in Caracas are also on strike. The poverty in the slums of Caracas is appalling, and so is the crime situation. No wonder interest in the *Green Book* is growing here with the passage of each day.

The impact of the *Green Book* on black Americans in the United States is no less pervasive than in South America. A black American activist, Earh Picard, was positive that, whatever form it might take in different countries, a decentralised political system like that in the Jamahiriya was the only answer to the ills of the modern party system. Mr Picard is a teacher of political science at Atlanta University. Tired of factionalism in the black movement itself, he has now ceased

to have any political affiliation. Although traditional and older black leaders, he said, are not yet aware of even the existence of the *Green Book* and the Third International Theory, young blacks are gradually realising its importance. The enthusiasm with which they participated in the colloquium was indeed indicative of their growing interest in the system of the Jamahiriya.

The greatest contribution of the colloquium was that it brought together so many freedom fighters from all parts of the world with academics and intellectuals and allowed them to have a free dialogue in which they were able to share each other's experiences, apart from their thoughts on the *Green Book*. A number of black Americans, for instance, told me that they were going to form popular committees at village and neighbourhood level. Prof Vitale is seeking to form a popular committee of Chilean exiles in Venezuela, as a first step towards the eventual transformation of the whole country into a Jamahiriya.

WHEN MUAMMER Qadhafi and his fellow Free Unionist Officers ousted the western orientated regime of King Idris on 1st September 1969, their aim was not merely the replacement of one political elite by another. Ever since the Revolution, devolution of political power has been a consistent trend in Libya.

In the early months of 1977 citizens met throughout Libya to hold wide-ranging discussions on the creation of a new political system based on the principles set out by Muammer Qadhafi in his *Green Book*. They nominated one thousand delegates to attend the first General People's Congress, which was convened in the southern town of Sebha in March. There the details of the Jamahiriya system of direct democracy were hammered out.

Since March 1977 the General People's Congress has met once a year, usually in January. To deal with emergency issues, extra-ordinary GPCs are convened. Although it is the Libyan legislature, it would be wrong to see the General People's Congress as just another form of traditional parliament. The key element in the political system created at Sebha are the Basic People's Congresses. Numbering about 180 throughout the Jamahiriya, each covers a defined area and is open to all the citizens living there. It is here that every Libyan can ensure that his voice is heard in the formulation of both local and country-wide policies.

Each Basic People's Congress decides on a Secretary and Assistant Secretary, both of whom attend the General People's Congress to convey the decisions of their Basic People's Congress. Unlike representatives in traditional democracies, they are mandated and cannot take decisions on their own initiative.

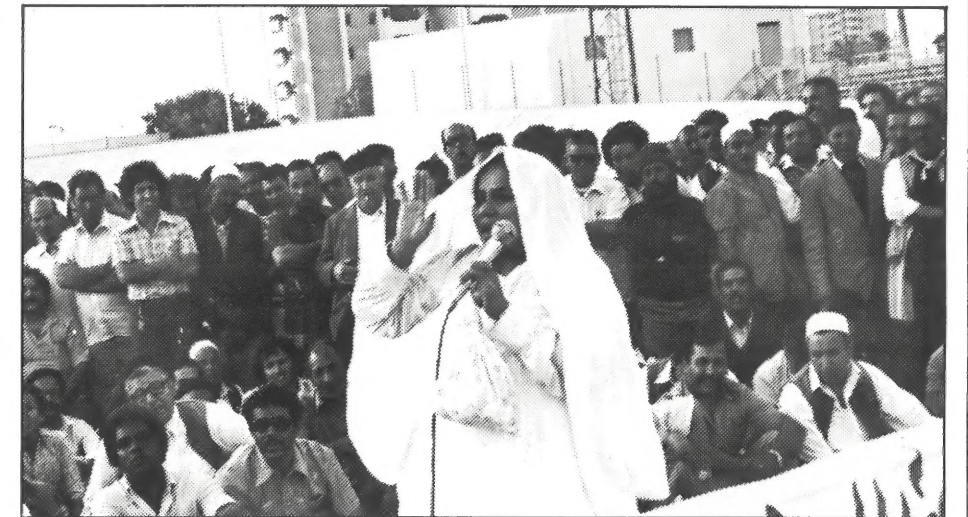
A parallel system operates at the level of towns and cities. Members from Basic People's Congresses in urban areas meet in Municipal People's Congresses to reach decisions affecting areas embracing several Basic People's Congresses. Again, the Secretary and Assistant Secretary of each Municipal People's Congress, with similar powers mandated by the citizens, attend the General People's Congress.

Along with the Basic and Municipal Congresses, Libya's trade union and professional bodies also have their own grass-roots congresses which send members to the General People's Congress.

At both basic and municipal levels, People's Committees, chosen by the local citizens, execute decisions in such fields as housing and health. Their members are chosen on the basis of their technical qualifications, and they have no powers to make policy. They are entirely answerable to the congresses they serve, and can be removed if they fail to implement their tasks efficiently.

Legislature

The General People's Congress meets to consider an agenda that is drawn up and



A Libyan woman exercises her democratic rights to speak and determine the Jamahiriya's policies at a meeting of a Basic People's Congress.

People's authority basis of democracy in Jamahiriya

LIBYA'S GRASS-roots political bodies — the Basic People's Congresses — opened discussions in November on issues to be decided at January's meeting of the country's legislature, the General People's Congress. Paul Jameson examines the system of democracy that allows every citizen a direct say in forming the Jamahiriya's policies.

approved after extensive discussion by the basic, municipal and workers' congresses. It decides only matters affecting the Jamahiriya as a whole, and decisions are reached by the majority vote of delegates. As well as deciding on the Jamahiriya's policy for the coming year, the General People's Congress reviews the activities of the Secretaries — the equivalent of ministries — over the previous year. It has the power to choose both the Secretary and the Committee for each Secretariat, of which there are nineteen. The Committee of each comprises members of the General People's Congress, and meets on a regular basis to decide the best ways of implementing decisions of the General People's Congress, and day-to-day matters.

The Secretaries, together with a Secretary-General, constitute the General Popular Committee. This is roughly equivalent to a cabinet in a traditional system of government, but again the essential difference is that each member is directly accountable to the General People's Congress, through the General People's Committee of his Secretariat,

and thus to the Libyan people as a whole.

The final body in Libya's system of direct democracy is the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress, a five-man team headed by a Secretary-General, currently Muhammad az Zarruq Rajab. This functions as a sort of 'collective premiership' and is directly responsible to the General People's Congress. It co-ordinates the activities of the General Popular Committee and the General People's Congress, and their relationships with the basic, municipal and workers' congresses.

Parallel to Libya's administrative system, but independent of it, is the movement of Revolutionary Committees, headed by Muammer Qadhafi. The Revolutionary Committees have a single role: to propagate the ideals of the Al Fateh Revolution. They have no executive powers whatsoever. Contrary to the impression given by the western media, Colonel Qadhafi, whose only official title is Leader of the Revolution, has no formal powers.

The key feature of Libya's system of direct democracy is that at every stage authority remains firmly in the hands of the people as a whole. It is an on-going process of decision-making and accountability. In traditional systems of government, officials take independent initiatives between periodic elections that often run contrary to the expressed wishes of the people they supposedly represent. In Libya, if they attempt to do this, or if they fail to implement policies effectively, they can be — and have been — removed from office by the General People's Congress. The establishment of the people's authority in Libya is by far the greatest single achievement of the Al Fateh Revolution. In today's Libya, the people have direct and immediate control over their destiny in a way that they have never before enjoyed.

Cartoon comment



Credit: Emirates News, Abu Dhabi



A statue in Sebha commemorates the 1960 student revolt led by Muammar Qadhafi, which led to his expulsion from the region.



The humble dwelling in which Qadhafi lived as a student

Sebha: Laying foundations for the future

THE OASIS town of Sebha in the Sahara presents a scene of intense construction activity. New building is under way on hundreds of sites in the town. This community of 80,000 people has been designated by the revolutionary authorities in Libya as the Centre of the Fezzan region. The town is being developed with new roads, new homes and industry.

There has been settlement in the Sebha region for centuries. The town was a stopping point on trade routes across the Sahara from Africa to the Mediterranean. When Libya was part of the Ottoman empire, the massive fortress was erected — a landmark for many kilometres around, rising above the sands of the Sahara. The fortress was rebuilt by the Italians who used Sebha as a base from which to subdue the Libyan resistance to colonial rule in the 1920s and 1930s. Today, it is part of the Jamahiriya's armed forces' base in the town.

Sebha itself lies to the north-west of this spectacular landmark. The former monarchy of Idris Sanussi had taken faltering steps in the development of the town, but it was largely neglected. After the Al Fateh Revolution on 1st September 1969, a development plan prepared by an international consulting firm was taken up and at first was approved by the authorities. It soon proved inadequate and the entire development of Sebha was rethought.

The town had grown haphazardly, around either side of the main highway from the Chad border to Tripoli, taking in a number of older villages. The old development plan was inadequate because it failed to take into account the extent to which Sebha, as the natural centre of the Fezzan, would expand as a result of

MOST IMAGES of Libya are restricted to the two coastal cities of Tripoli and Benghazi. When the rest of Libya comes to attention at all, it is for oil exploration and extraction activity. But in southern Libya, the Jamahiriya's revolutionary authorities are making great efforts to develop agriculture and industry to enhance living standards for the local population. Phil Kelly recently visited the area, and the first of his reports covers the city of Sebha, which is the centre of the region and of development efforts.

agricultural and industrial development in the region and the inevitable process of the growth of towns seen all over the Third World.

Sebha had already expanded beyond the limits planned in the days before the Revolution. It was necessary to recast the plans. The town now is divided into eight districts each of which will have its own schools, hospitals, mosques, supermarkets and social facilities. The areas are to be linked with a new road network which is already partially completed.

Residential development since the Revolution has been of two kinds. New homes

have been completed in the eight districts, pushing the boundaries of the town out into the desert. In the older parts of the town, basic housing has been replaced by luxury homes with all modern amenities, water, electricity and sewage disposal.

Traditional

The basic housing, which has almost all disappeared, was of two types: single storey concrete housing in some districts, but also traditional mud-walled dwellings with palm-leaf roofs and sand floors, of the sort which had been constructed in the Saharan region for centuries. Some of these dwellings will be preserved in order to show what conditions were like before the 1st September Revolution. Some have become temporary homes for Chadian refugees.

In the centre of Sebha, residential re-development is intended to increase population density and so three- and four-storey flats are being constructed. But in the newer suburbs, housing is mostly in single family, one- or two-storey units. Housing is seen as a basic right in the Libyan Jamahiriya and each family now owns its own house: there are no landlords. Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi says in the *Green Book*: 'The house is a basic need of the individual and the family. Therefore, it should not be owned by others. There is no freedom for a man who lives in another man's house, whether he pays rent or not.'

Many of those who live in Sebha were, until less than a decade ago, nomadic herdsman accompanied by their livestock, living in tents of animal hair. One of the problems presented by the change of lifestyle among the previous nomadic people

Maknussa: Farming in the Sahara

SIXTY MASSIVE green circles cover the yellow desert sand at Maknussa, a wheat farm in the middle of the Sahara. Begun four years ago, the heart of the project is irrigation of wheatfields by massive pivoting booms, sectionalised water pipes carried fifteen feet above the desert on wheeled supports. Each set of wheels has an electric motor, and when the boom is in operation, the whole assembly pivots round a central point, from which water flows along the pipe and out through sprinklers to the crops.

The whole massive structure inches its way across the ground, covering the circles once in twelve hours. Irrigation is undertaken, of course, principally at night. The Maknussa scheme has been operating for four years, and produces 12,500 tonnes of wheat at each harvest — there are two per year — from the 2,500 hectares under irrigation. The yield of 5 tonnes per hectare is regarded as very good for such a scheme, and has been constant since the scheme commenced operation four years ago.

The contractor for the development was The Food Development Corporation of the US, and the pivoting boom equipment was supplied by a US firm, Sargeant, and was initially serviced by US personnel. But Libyans have been trained to take over the project, and the last Americans will leave next year. At present, Maknussa employs 82 people, of whom 28 are non-

THE MASSIVE agricultural project at Maknussa, south of Sebha, is a showpiece of Libyan determination to make the desert green. Modern technology has been used in the Jamahiriya's bid for self-sufficiency in food, as Phil Kelly discovered on a recent visit to the project

Libyans, including British and Sudanese as well as Americans.

Water at Maknussa comes from wells some 500-800 feet deep, and is ample for the current scale of the project. An on-site laboratory is used to check and control the nutritional programme of the soil. At present, studies are being undertaken of the available water supplies to see whether it will be possible to expand Maknussa. The sole crop being planted at the moment is wheat, because of its strategic importance, but sorghum will also be planted in the future. The crop is used locally, being taken to Sebha by road, for milling into flour for human consumption. Excellent fresh rolls served in Sebha's main hotel are just one example of Maknussa's produce in use.

Libyan agriculture is still trying to re-

cover from the impact of the flight from the land produced by the oil boom, particularly in the years before the Al Fateh Revolution. As in so many sectors, the shortage of trained personnel place severe constraints on what can be achieved. The total spending on agriculture under the 1981-85 plan is 3.1 billion Libyan dinars (\$10.1 billion); 16.2 per cent of the total outlay. Agricultural production is planned to expand at an annual average rate of 7.4 per cent, considerably less than the planned annual rate of 15.8 per cent projected under the 1976-80 plan, a target which was not met.

Nevertheless, Libya's aim remains self-sufficiency in food by the end of the century. Muammar Qadhafi's warning in 1978, 'There is no independence for those who secure their food from abroad', still underlies the country's efforts.

Around Sebha, a number of other agricultural projects are under way, such as a further pivoted boom irrigation scheme at Wadi Aril, east of Sebha, and much new construction and irrigation is evident throughout the region. The Jamahiriya's 1981-85 five-year plan calls for the development of about 39,000 additional hectares, both for cultivation and for farmers' accommodation. All the cultivated land will be under irrigation, and crops will probably be citrus fruit. The sight of orange groves in the desert is not at all unusual.

is the inevitable persistence of traditional customs and ways of life — such as the keeping of livestock — for which modern accommodation is not always suited. While this causes inconvenience and makes the town less than tidy, it is not the wish of the revolutionary authorities in the Jamahiriya to impose an alien way of life on people. The younger generation, however, who are benefitting from the educational facilities now available to all children will appreciate the developments and modern housing projects now underway.

Revolution

Sebha has close connections with Muammar Qadhafi. It was in this town that he went to secondary school in the late 1950s. That school still stands and is now a boys' primary school, and in its courtyard stands a sign which tells the world that the Libyan revolution had its origins there. Also in the grounds is a statue of a group of figures, including Muammar Qadhafi as a young man, which commemorates a demonstration which he led as a student in 1960.

The 1960 march through Sebha's streets was in support of Arab unity and in protest against the break-up of the United Arab Republic of Egypt and Syria following the seizure of power in Syria by

right-wing army officers. The demonstration was strongly in support of Egyptian leader Gamal Abdel Nasser and police attacked the students. For his part in it, the young Muammar Qadhafi was not only expelled from school, but also thrown out of his native Fezzan. He went to Tripoli and later to military college, before joining the Army and founding the Free Unionist Officers' Movement which nine years later overthrew the Sanussi regime.

Another link with Muammar Qadhafi preserved in Sebha is the house with mud brick walls, palm-leaf roof and sand floor, in which he lived while studying in the town. Now in the centre of a small park, it is preserved as closely as possible in the condition in which it was when the Libyan leader lived there. The house is only a single room, twelve feet square, with a door in one wall and a tiny unglazed window providing the only light. The only furniture is a bed, an oil stove and a set of cooking bowls. On the wall, as there was when Muammar Qadhafi lived there, is a picture of Nasser.

Development

As well as being the centre of the region, Sebha is being developed with industry to provide employment for the future. Industries already established include

flour milling, food and soft drinks manufacture, in accordance with the Jamahiriya's policy of establishing light industry first, as a basis on which heavy industry can later be built.

In the future, Sebha will be an important centre, not only for agriculture, but for mineral mining. The Sahara is rich in potash and iron ore deposits, which will eventually be exploited.

A railway is planned which will run from Sebha to Misrata on the coast. It will carry iron ore from the Wadi Shatti area to the steelworks under construction at Misrata. The line will also have a link to Tripoli, and a British consultancy firm is already drawing up plans. The line is planned to open in 1985.

Sebha's main roads plan has been modified to cope with the now envisaged expansion in development, particularly in the north-east of the city where the new railway terminal will be.

Meanwhile, a Taiwanese firm has been awarded contracts for a shoe factory and a wire products factory, and the Scandinavian consulting firm, Finlandia, is revising the development plan, drawing up detailed plans for the further enlargement of the city. The former village in the Sahara will be one of the major industrial and agricultural centres of Africa by the end of this century.



Photo: Main Event

Busy traffic at Tripoli Port: See report below

Third University opens at Marsa Brega

LIBYAN REVOLUTIONARY leader Muammar Qadhafi has formally opened the Jamahiriya's third university. Located at Marsa Brega, the university will specialise in technical subjects relating to oil and engineering and will have an eventual student population of 1,700.

In addition to a range of well equipped laboratories, there are seven lecture theatres in the integrated complex, which has about 1,000 rooms. The main university building, which took three years to construct, covers 62,000 square metres of a total campus area measuring four kilometres by 2.5 kilometres. The building cost about LD 30 million. A further LD 2 million will be spent on utilities such as power and air conditioning, and another LD 1 million on furniture and laboratory equipment. A student village will also be constructed.

The university, formally opened on 25th November, was built by a joint venture of Switzerland's two leading construction companies, Preiswerk of Basle and Frutigen of Thun.

The Marsa Brega University is destined to become the focus of technical education in the Jamahiriya, and will incorporate a number of existing institutions. The Mining and Petroleum Faculty of Tripoli's Al Fateh University, and the Brack Higher Institute of Technology are amongst those that will be transferred to Marsa Brega.

One of the Jamahiriya's major petrochemicals complexes is under development near the university, and students will have ample opportunity to visit the types of project in which they will work after graduating.

Switzerland has also been successful in other Libyan higher education projects. On 9th October it was reported that the Geilinger company had been awarded a \$50 million contract to build an agriculture faculty for Benghazi's Gar Younis University. The faculty will be located at the town of Beida, about 200 kilometres north east of Benghazi. The two-storey building will cover an area of more than 28,000 square metres, and will cater for 1,500 students and 150 staff. Completion is scheduled for the end of 1983.

\$100 million port scheme for Derna

SOUTH KOREA'S Hyundai Engineering & Construction Company has been awarded the \$101 million contract for the second stage of the Derna port project, some 300 kilometres north east of Benghazi.

Hyundai will dredge 600,000 cubic metres to lower the quay-side depth to about 10 metres, with the dredged material being used to reclaim 300,000 square metres of land. Two new quays will be constructed. A 280 metre quay will have two general cargo berths, one for use by container vessels. A 500 metre quay will provide a grain berth, a loading berth, a police berth and berthage for a floating dry dock. Hyundai will also build five hectares of roads and pavements, administration, fire and first aid buildings, a transit shed and workshop. The second stage of the port scheme is scheduled for completion in mid-1984. Client is the Derna municipality, and consultant is Britain's Rendel Palmer & Tritton.

The first stage of the Derna scheme was completed in 1979 by

Egypt's Canal Harbour Works, and entailed building a breakwater and general cargo quay, and dredging to improve the port approaches. The port will be the major outlet for the Jebel Akhdar region, which is the site of a number of agricultural development projects.

Port expansion is a key objective of the Jamahiriya's current 1981-85 development plan. The aim is to expand capacity from 7 million tonnes during the plan period.

Extension to Benghazi North power station

BELGIUM'S ELECTROBEL Engineering International has won the \$8.3 million consultancy contract for the third extension to the Benghazi North power and desalination plant. The five year contract covers the full range of services from preliminary studies to start-up and final acceptance by the client.

The power station was designed by Electrobel in 1971 with a capacity of 30 MW and 24,000 cubic metres per day of desalinated water. In 1974 the Belgian firm was appointed consultant for a scheme to double the plant's capacity, and in 1977 two 40 MW turbines were added.

The third extension, for which Electrobel has already started preliminary studies, entails supplying three turbines of 120 MW — 150 MW each and a 100,000 cubic metres per day multistage desalination plant. Work will also include buildings and workshops, seawater reservoirs and pumping stations, freshwater reservoirs and pumping stations for Benghazi and a surrounding area with a radius of 45 kilometres. Other elements include fuel storage tanks, a com-

puterised control centre, and a 220 kV substation and inter-connection with the existing electricity grid.

One of the key projects in the \$62.5 billion 1981-85 development plan is the establishment of a country-wide electricity grid. A landmark in progress towards this aim came in November with the completion of 220 kV power transmission lines linking the Gharyan power station, about 70 kilometres south of Tripoli, with the Jebel Gharbi region. Announcing the completion of the project on 13th November, the Jamahiriya News Agency JANA added that a 75 MW power station had become operational in Kufra, in south east Libya, with most of its output going to the region's agricultural schemes.

New public company will ease port congestion

LIBYA STILL suffers from a restricted port capacity which has the effect both of delaying ships in berthing, and in delaying the unloading and processing of their cargoes. The first problem is being dealt with by an ambitious programme of port expansion (see *Hyundai wins \$100 million port contract*). The second is being tackled by the creation of a new public company which will handle the distribution of goods from the ports.

On 2nd November the Jamahiriya News Agency JANA reported that the company, which will end the monopoly of the private sector in this crucial area, has just started operations in Tripoli port. Already the firm has signed contracts for 500 vehicles, of which 100 have been delivered. The company will establish a network of depots and service

stations for its fleet, and will shortly open branches in all the Jamahiriya's ports and municipalities. All privately-owned vehicles with a carrying capacity exceeding three tonnes and engaged in maritime transport will be incorporated into the new company's fleet, although their ownership will be unchanged.

Japan to crew Libyan freighters

JAPAN IS to supply crew members for the two latest additions to the Jamahiriya's merchant fleet. On 23 October *Middle East Economic Digest* reported that 28 Japanese sailors have been recruited to man the 9,000 dwt *Ibn Hawkal*, which is nearing completion at Rostock in the German Democratic Republic. The new vessel's maiden voyage is scheduled for late December. A further 28 Japanese are to crew the 9,420 dwt *Sirte*, also built at Rostock, and delivered to the Jamahiriya's General Organisation for Maritime Transport in late September. A third general cargo vessel is nearing completion at the East German yard, and is due for delivery next February.

The arrival of the two ships still at Rostock will bring the Jamahiriya's merchant fleet to 27 vessels, and this figure is set to rise to 60 by the middle of the decade, at the end of Libya's 1981-85 development plan. By then, 60 per cent of all the country's imports will be carried on Libyan-owned ships.

New roads open

THE OPENING of three major new roads in the Libyan Jamahiriya in recent weeks is an important step towards the achievement of the 1981-85 development plan's target of 1,500 kilometres of roads to be built by the middle of the decade. 2nd October saw the official inauguration of two roads linking the coastal town of Homs with Misrata and Misrata. On 25th September the 1,223 kilometres Nalut-Jadu highway was opened. This is a key route in the network planned to link all the municipalities in the area between Gharyan and Nalut.

Meanwhile, a state-owned Indian firm has won a 600 million rupees contract to build roads in the Ghat region in the south west of the Jamahiriya, New Delhi radio reported on 9th September. The contract has brought the total value of the company's Libyan work to 2.5 billion rupees.

The Jamahiriya's rapid economic development has been accompanied by a large increase in the number of vehicles on Libyan roads. Japanese cars and trucks have proved particularly popular, and this year about 60 per cent of vehicle imports were Japanese. Following orders placed with the Mitsubishi Motors Corporation this year totalling 22,120 vehicles, valued at \$83.3 million, the Japanese firm is now setting up an after sales car service network. Four service technicians have been sent to Tripoli, and another two to Benghazi to help establish the service depots.

Construction boom gets a boost

RECENTLY AWARDED building contracts show that there will be no let up in the Libyan Jamahiriya's construction boom. On 6th November *Middle East Economic Digest* quoted Lee Kyung-Hoon, president of South Korea's Daewoo Corporation as saying the firm had in the previous month won turnkey contracts in Libya totalling \$1.8 billion. The awards more than double the value of Daewoo's work in the Jamahiriya.

The new contracts include building 5,000 apartments in Benghazi and 2,000 in Tripoli, all to be in six storey blocks. Also in Tripoli, Daewoo will build 2,500 classrooms and a new hospital, with accommodation for 1,000 staff. Daewoo expects to increase its Korean workforce in Libya to 15,000-16,000 from the current level of about 7,000.

Another major hospital project was won by the Indian firm Turnkey Engineering Corporation last August. The Health Secretariat awarded the firm a \$15 million contract to build twelve mini-hospitals in the Tripoli region, and the company said it has been offered a further contract for two hospitals and nine clinics.

Major contracts for people's supermarkets

THE JAMAHIRIYA'S Economy Secretariat has awarded a \$22 million contract to the Yugoslavian firm Gosa to build and furnish three people's supermarkets.

As part of the Al Fateh Revolution's moves to eliminate exploitation, the private retailing sector in the Jamahiriya is being phased out. In the place of the privately-owned stores a country-

wide network of people's markets is being set up, where Libyans can buy a wide range of commodities virtually at cost price. By March this year the General Markets Company had established 225 markets, and it was announced that 60 more were shortly to open. The latest people's market was opened on 24th September in Jado Yefran municipality.

To ensure that the people's markets are adequately supplied, a parallel network of warehouses is being established in the Jamahiriya's towns. In October it was announced that the Economy Secretariat has awarded three Italian firms contracts to build a total of 27 new warehouses. The Codelfa company has an \$81 million contract for seven warehouses, to be built in Benghazi, Al Marj, Tobruk, Derna, Kufra, Agedabiyeh and Beida. Completion is scheduled for January 1983. A further seven will be built by the Sices company. The other thirteen will be built by the Silfep company under a \$42 million contract. Silfep is currently completing a contract for five 32,000 square metre people's supermarkets.

Athens-based Doxiades Associates has been appointed construction supervisor for the new warehouses. The Greek firm has also been appointed construction manager for a scheme to build 185 further people's markets. Construction contractor is the Jamahiriya's National Construction Company, which is expected to award subcontracts for the work. The scheme is scheduled for completion in 1984.

Italy scoops the contracts

ITALY'S VETRARIA Rocco Bormioli (VRB) and its affiliate Industria Vetraria San Cristoforo have supplied the Jamahiriya with 50 million items of glassware during 1981. By November about 15 million pieces valued at \$1.2 million had been shipped. The Italian firms are hoping for a repeat order for 1982.

As well as supplying glassware, the Italian firms are also providing technical assistance to their client, the General Glass & Ceramic Company (GGCC), in operating GGCC's Tripoli and Derna factories.

It was also announced in November that Italy's Pompe Atturi has an \$11.5 million order for 3,100 submersible, electrically driven centrifugal pumps, to be used to supply water from deep irrigation wells in the Jebel Akhdar region in north east Libya.

Earlier, in August, it was disclosed that Italy's Omnia Orobica had won a contract to supply

250,000 tonnes of steel bars for use in construction. 21st September was set as delivery date for the \$56 million order.

Jamahiriya tests credit market

THE LIBYAN Arab Foreign Investment Company, set up this year to handle all the Jamahiriya's non-banking foreign investments, has raised a \$200 million, seven year loan on the European financial market. Carrying interest of almost 16 per cent, the loan is the first Libyan venture into the Euromarket for many years. The loan is guaranteed by the Libyan Arab Foreign Bank, and the main organiser is the Arab Banking Corporation, in which the Jamahiriya has a one-third stake.

Contrary to reports that the loan signifies Libyan cash flow problems arising from reduced oil sales, Western financial experts see the move as an exercise designed to test the country's credit rating. On 7th November the *Economist* said that the Jamahiriya's foreign exchange holdings at the end of last May stood at more than \$13 billion in foreign bank deposits country 'probably has a large share of the \$44.7 billion in foreign bank deposits that this Friday's figures from the Bank for International Settlement show were held by Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Oman and Libya at the end of June'.

Writing in the *Guardian* on 25th October, David Simpson said: 'The loan is seen as a deliberate attempt by Libya to gauge reaction as there are no obvious reasons why the credit should be sought at this moment.' The *Economist* explained further, 'There is more to borrowing on the Euromarkets than being short of cash. Putting a toe in the water now makes it easier to slip into the market at short notice in the future. Bankers then have more savvy about the borrower's economic health and, particularly, about whether he has clean repayment habits.'

New missile boat

THE TARIQ Bin Zayed, an advanced patrol boat equipped with surface to surface and surface to air missiles has become the latest addition to the Libyan Jamahiriya's naval fleet. The vessel, which officially joined the fleet at a ceremony on 8th November attended by Muammar Qadhafi and armed forces commander Brig Abu Bakr Yunis, is one of a batch of missile patrol boats being commissioned into the Libyan navy.

THE GREEN BOOK



BY MUAMMAR AL QADHAFI

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The solution of the problem of Democracy

PART 2

The solution of the Economic Problem

PART 3

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Muammar
Qadhafi
talks to
Thames Television



LIBYA AND THE BOMB

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